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Decorate Dowagiac Committee aims to amp up city décor

COMMUNITY REPORT

Dowagiac — A new committee, Decorate Dowagiac, announced Thursday its mission of building upon and enhancing the City of Dowagiac's traditional holiday streetscape decorations.

"Our goal is to enhance the basics that are already in stock, and add some new features," stated Melissa Gunn, owner of Deck the Halls and the committee's Chairwoman. "Because commercial décor is expensive, this is going to be a group effort in fundraising in order to build a variety of decorations over a few years."

Gunn stated that the first goal is to embellish the City Christmas Tree that is set up in Beckwith Park annually. The committee has a plan for the décor and is kicking off its fundraising drive today. Because the non-profit Greater Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce will be facilitating the collection of donations for Decorate Dowagiac, all contributions are tax deductible and all funds received will be used for the purchase of holiday décor and supplies for streetscapes.

Gunn kick started the fundraising campaign with a $500 donation on behalf of her business, Deck the Halls, which features holiday décor and gift items year round.

"Though no donation is too small, we have one special package for an individual or a business," added Gunn. "The first to commit and donate $2500 will be our Star Sponsor, covering the expense of the tree topper, and will have their name featured for three years at the base of the tree while it stands during the holidays."

See DÉCOR, Page A7

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Melissa Gunn, Decorate Dowagiac Chairwoman and owner of Deck the Halls in Dowagiac, presents her check as the first donor to the Decorate Dowagiac fund.

Cass County commissioners approve budget

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

CASSOPOLIS — Cass County Commissioners approved a new budget Tuesday at a special county board meeting but it wasn't unanimously supported by commissioners or the public. The new budget is for the 2025 fiscal year that starts Oct. 1.

The new budget is a balanced one, thanks to the use of $1.566 million from the county's fund balance of $6.8 million. Cass County Administrator Matthew Newton noted last week that the budget had initially had a deficit of over $3 million before adjustments were made after commissioners requested in late August that the deficit be reduced.

The vote to approve the budget was 5-3. Voting yes were Sam Barrera, Jeremiah Jones, James Lawrence, RJ Lee and Joyce Locke. Voting no were Mary Howie, Ryan Laylin and Roseann Marchetti.

The budget approval vote came after commissioners deadlocked 4-4 on a motion to amend the budget to take out an administrative assistant position in the county administration department. The vote there had Barrera, Howie, Lawrence and Lee voting to amend the budget and Jones, Laylin, Locke and Marchetti voting no.

Those wanting to amend the budget to not include the position-which costs $50,000 taken from the administration and finance department-primarily because other departments weren't allowed to add positions or hire new people. They added that someone shouldn't be hired for that position until a classification and compensation study is done later this year.

The argument on the other side was that the position isn't new, it just hasn't been filled recently. Newton added that having an administrative assistant for his department to do routine work and answer public questions will free the existing staff including himself to do other tasks.

One of those questioning having the administrative assistant position funded in the new budget was Sheriff Richard Behnke.

"I heard of the new position for the administrator office and I found that surprising," he said. "During budget meetings, we were told to find ways to cut services, combine services or make our operations more efficient so we don't need to have as many people."

"We were told not to ask for more people because there wasn't the money to do that," he added. "We were told that the county clerk is in need of someone to help with elections and that the county treasurer is taking on additional responsibilities that are not part of her statutory duties … Then I found out that the rules were changed for one office, that's disappointing."

Behnke said that Barrera made a good point to wait to add the position until after the compensation study is done.

"Then there would be more information about the needs for that position," he said. "A lot of us didn't put in for anything extra because we were told the money wasn't there."

Resident Lynn Schantz had a more general concern. She said she had attended the budget discussion at last week's Committee of

See BUDGET, Page A7

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Hundreds attend SMC College Fair

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Contrary to the multitude of undecideds among more than 350 high school students attending Southwestern Michigan College's College Fair Sept. Contrary to the multitude of undecideds among more than 350 high school students attending Southwestern Michigan College's College Fair Sept. 23, Marcellus Community Schools senior Ben Aalfs is deep into researching his path to attaining his educational goals.

Aalfs sees himself combining automotive technology with business and marketing to open his own garage.

"I've checked out SMC's business courses, which are great," he said, "so I've thought about coming here for a year."

Aalfs is also looking at WyoTech, the former Wyoming Technical Institute in Laramie, which prepares students for careers as technicians in the automotive and diesel industry.

Aalfs, who divides his time between Marcellus and Van Buren Tech in Lawrence, previously attended college fairs at Michigan State and Western Michigan universities.

Aalfs is seated with another Wildcats senior interested in pursuing cybersecurity or computer networking.

A group of young women from Hartford contains an undecided, two aspiring

See FUTURE, Page A7

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

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Driver arraigned in Niles Saylor's Pizza crash

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The driver who crashed a vehicle into the Niles Saylor's Pizza Port while fleeing police has been arraigned on charges resulting from the crash, according to the Berrien County Sheriff's Office.

Jaquan Deon Chestnut, a 21-year-old man from Chicago Heights, IL was arraigned in Berrien County's 5th district court on charges of fleeing and eluding in the 3rd degree, resisting and obstructing a police officer, and driving without a valid operator's license. He is currently being held in the Berrien County Jail on $20,000 bond.

At approximately 4:49 a.m. Tuesday, a Berrien County Sheriff's Office deputy was on patrol in Bertrand Township, Berrien County along US-12 when he observed a vehicle driving at an excessive speed. The deputy attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the dark colored SUV for the

See DRIVER, Page A7

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

OBITUARIES

Rose Marie Krieger
Gary Lynn Maxam
Richard "Rick" Ernest Brett
Dorothy Jean Hess
Hector "Jim" Rocha
Robert Campbell
Laura Skillings
Timmy D. Newton

A6

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

"So sad to see the crash and fire at Saylor's. It will be missed." A2

Cassopolis falls to Hartford 37-36 in Homecoming thriller B1

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email rich.cains@leaderpub.com

"Thank God nobody was hurt inside Saylor's Pizza. Like my dad always said, if you are looking for trouble, you will find it."

"So sad to see the crash and fire at Saylor's. It will be missed."

"I am seeing Christmas ornaments for sale... I thought Halloween came first?"

"Trump says women love him and he is "protecting them"..... How? By forcing them to have babies from rape and incest? Yes, that's now the law in several states."

"So, the new rule of thumb is a woman must go into sepsis before she can have an abortion from a dying fetus. Sepsis kills 350,000 Americans each year."

"Why vote for the same old, same old politicians with the same old loyalty to the party rather than the people."

"I hate to see Shelton's go."

"Why is it that the economy is "always" bad? Everyone always complains about it. That's just not true. Inflation today is the same as it was in 2021. Blame the gougers continuing to rack up high profits. Stop buying....."

"This Hwy 51 thing just ain't going away..... I spent 25 minutes stuck on it this week. How can these businesses survive this mess?"

"I thought interest rates were coming down? Where is the savings? Please inform me."

"NFL is rigged..... KC Chiefs and Taylor Swift are already in the Superbowl."

"Kamala Harris is not the answer. Trump is definitely not the answer."

WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Rain Showers	Rain Showers	Rain Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Sunny
73° 62°	71° 61°	74° 62°	73° 51°	63° 47°	66° 50°

TEACHER/STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Laura McIntyre, Patrick Hamilton Elementary

STAFF REPORT

Educators are perhaps the greatest population of unsung heroes in Berrien and Cass County. This school year, Leader Publications will publish a weekly spotlight featuring teachers and staff throughout the Dowagiac Union Schools district, giving the community a chance to get to know the hard-working individuals shaping their children's lives.

Name: Laura McIntyre

School: Patrick Hamilton Elementary

Grades/subjects taught: K - Senior Year High School / K- 5 gifted program / Freshman - Senior Year Academic Mentor / Classroom Teacher for 3rd and 4th graders

Where did you attend college? Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois

How many years have you been teaching?

20 years total

How many years have you been with your current school?

Starting my 5th year at Patrick Hamiltion

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I was a figure skating instructor and I loved working with kids, so a friend said you should be a teacher! Which was funny because I was not a school kind of kid.

Outside of school, what do you enjoy doing for fun?

I love to walk my Aussie Maverick. I live in two states basically, Oak Lawn, Illinois and Dowagiac, Michigan. So I travel back and forth. I also love to ride my wave runner and snowmobile in Michigan.

What is one thing your students may not know about you?

That I had a hard time in school and that things didn't come easy for me. That I was an average student until I went to college and made the Dean's List

Who is your favorite fictional character and why?

Sherlock Holmes is my favorite fictional character because he always was observing people to solve cases. I love to observe and problem solve.

When you were a student in the grade you teach, what were your favorite hobbies?

Disco was in and my friends and I would make up our own dances during recess and I would ride my skateboard to my friends house.

How would your coworkers describe your teaching style and personality?

I have a hard time tooting my horn. I have no problem tooting for my students but it's hard for me, so I asked a couple of coworkers to answer this question. Laura's teaching style is dedicated, enthusiastic, resourceful, determined, committed, and adaptable. ESPECIALLY adaptable.

Who is your biggest role model and why?

Cara Keller was my Gifted Co-Teacher. She was soooo smart and I was the creative one. She showed me how to look at the world around me and to see that there are learning / teachable moments all around you. Example: We went on a field trip in the forest preserves for our biome unit. We unfortunately stepped on a

See LAURA, Page A7

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SMC launches new tuition-free scholarship program

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Southwestern Michigan College's new free tuition scholarship program, the Green Light Guarantee, reinforces SMC's commitment to providing accessible and affordable education for all recent and future Michigan high school graduates pursuing a college degree.

Starting in the fall of 2025, the Green Light Guarantee's advantage is that students can attend SMC tuition-free in Michigan.

The Green Light Guarantee enhances the state Community College Guarantee program, which only covers in-district tuition costs.

"This commitment, on the part of SMC, to extend the state's new scholarship program to any recent Michigan high school graduate is indicative of our belief in the SMC difference," President Dr. Joseph L. Odenwald said. "This opens the door to high-quality academics, inspiring arts and competitive athletics in a residential setting to thousands more Michiganders."

To qualify for the Green Light Guarantee, students must meet Community College Guarantee eligibility requirements:

- Be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year. If you are a dependent student, your parents must have been Michigan residents since July 1 of the previous calendar year.
- Graduate from a high school in Michigan.
- Enroll at a community college as a fulltime student (at least 12 credits) within 15 months of high school graduation.

To get started, students must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Apply for admission to SMC at swmich.edu/apply. Students must be accepted at SMC and registered for classes to receive a final scholarship offer.

For more information about the Green Light Guarantee, visit swmich.edu/guarantee.

Jones man gets prison time for fatal Newberg Township crash

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

CASSOPOLIS — Sept. 20 Cass County Circuit Court sentences included prison sentences for an Indiana drug dealer and a Jones resident who drove recklessly causing the death of his passenger.

Buck

Ke-Shawn Gene Buck, 27, of Jones, pleaded guilty to reckless driving causing death and was sentenced to two to 15 years in prison with credit for one day served and $2,758 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred Aug. 8, 2023 when Buck was speeding on Born Street in Newberg Township, passing a truck and going through a stop sign at 96 miles per hour before losing control of his car and crashing. His passenger, Kierstin Johnson, was killed and he received major injuries leaving him a quadriplegic.

Johnson's mother spoke before the sentencing, saying that the accident had destroyed her family. "It's been horrific, we will never be the same," she said. "I just want to see him pay for the consequences of his actions. You don't get to recklessly take a life and for what?"

Assistant Prosecutor Jason Ronning said that while some would say Buck has already suffered enough with his injuries, his response is that people have to take responsibility for their actions.

"The question before the court is should he be sentenced to incarceration or a supervised sentence because of his injuries," he said. "His injuries is the consequence, prison is the sentence. He did it with a passenger and he needs to face the consequences for that."

Defense attorney Robert Kardatzke called it a horrible tragedy for everybody involved. "Nothing the court can do is worse than what he's already received," he said. "He is a quadriplegic and needs 24 hour care. I don't think the court can do anything to further deter him."

Buck said he loved Johnson and said he goes "through hell every day."

Cass County Circuit Court Judge Mark Herman said he didn't doubt that Buck wishes that he could go back, that he didn't intend to hurt anyone and that it could all be undone. "But when I look at you driving your vehicle at that speed and at that location, I don't know what you expected to happen," the judge said.

"You were reckless to the point that it happened," he added. "... It looks like because of your temper, she's deceased and you have a lifetime disability. It's a lesson learned the hard way. I'm left to deal with the aftermath. No matter what happens neither you or her family will ever feel vindicated. There's really nothing I can do that makes anyone feel better."

Harold Monroe Matthews, 50, of Elkhart, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to deliver 450 to 999 grams of cocaine and fleeing and eluding police, both as a habitual offender, and was sentenced to 15 to 30 years in prison, credit for three days served and $1,748 in fines and costs.

Matthews

The incident occurred Jan. 10, 2023 in Mason Township when undercover officers arranged to purchase drugs from him. He was recently sentenced in Indiana to 29 years in prison. This sentence is concurrent with that sentence and Matthews can serve the Michigan sentence in any penal institution.

Judge Herman noted that he's known Matthews from the time he was a juvenile appearing before him. "I dealt with you in juvenile court 30 years ago and talked with you about what happens when you're dealing drugs," he said. "You said you could make more money dealing drugs. I could tell that I was not getting through to you."

"What you have at age 50?" he asked. "It gives me no joy to sentence you. You were a likeable kid and had so much potential ... I'm sorry to see your life destroyed by drugs. I hope you take advantage of your sentence modification in Indiana, you may get out after 11 years."

An Edwardsburg woman who drove drunk and injured her passenger was sentenced to probation and jail.

Jeri Lynn Rickey, 52, of Edwardsburg, pleaded guilty to operating while intoxicated causing serious injury and operating with a suspended or revoked license causing serious injury and was sentenced to three years probation, 365 days in jail with credit for six days served, 120 days tether, $4,196 in fines and costs and $345 in restitution.

Rickey

The incident occurred Jan. 21, 2023 on Hess Road in Edwardsburg when she lost control of the car and hit a tree. Her passenger was thrown from the car. Her blood alcohol level was .235, nearly three times the legal limit and she and the passenger both admitted they were drinking shots of vodka while she was driving. She also had other drugs in her system.

"This is your fifth conviction for drunk driving going back 25 years," the judge said. "You don't seem to get the point that you can't drink and drive. You need to learn that doing vodka shots at a right rate of speed is not going to get you anywhere. It's time you learned that society has had enough, I'm not going play patty cake with you."

"I'm done with your drinking and driving," he added. "If you see me again, you're going to prison. You can drink yourself to death at home, but if you get behind the wheel of a car, you're going to prison."

In other sentences:

•Kayla Nicole Clark, 28, of Marcellus, pleaded guilty to attempted resisting police reduced from being an accessory after the fact to a felony and was sentenced to $1,608 in fines and costs. The incident occurred Jan. 20 in Marcellus when her boyfriend shot her brother. Her boyfriend is currently in prison.

Clark

•Eliezer Flores Duran, 42, of Elkhart, pleaded guilty to third degree fleeing police and was sentenced to one year probation, credit for 86 days served and $1,908. The incident occurred Dec. 10, 2023 in Howard Township. He already has served a jail term for the Berrien County part of the incident.

Duran

•Carl Martin Fields, 54, of Marcellus, pleaded guilty to attempted felonious assault and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for three days served, $1,918 in fines and costs and restitution to be determined. The incident occurred Sept. 18, 2023 in Marcellus.

Fields

•Wayne Sherman Mason, 60, of Elkhart, pleaded guilty to possession of meth and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for three days served and $1,978 in fines and costs. The incident occurred May 30 in Vandalia. He can get the charge off his record if he's successful on probation.

Mason

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SMC women's hoops visits Niles schools

COMMUNITY REPORT

NILES — The Southwestern Michigan College women's basketball continued its efforts to give back to the community last week, this time with Niles Community Schools.

The team volunteered at Eastside Connections School and Howard-Ellis Elementary last Friday. At Eastside, players read to kindergarten through second grade students. At Howard, players helped administrators introduce new playground equipment, modeled sportsmanship and played structured games during recess for kindergarten through 5th grade.

"We loved having SMC ladies basketball on Friday for recess," said Heather Loos, Assistant Principal at Howard- Ellis Elementary. "They did a great job reinforcing our recess expectations and supporting good sportsmanship. They helped to review our 3Rs respect, responsibility, and resilience in a fun and engaging way. Our kiddos had a blast playing games and dancing with the team. We may have to add a 4th R for Roadrunners as a part of our PBIS framework."

"Our team had an incredible day working with the elementary students," added Jessica Johnson, Assistant Coach SMC Women's Basketball. "It was such a rewarding experience to give back to the community. It was inspiring to see how eager they were to learn and play, and it reminded our team of the impact they can make as role models both on and off the court. We all left with full hearts, knowing we made a positive difference in their day."

For the program, the time spent at the two schools was an initiative that highlighted the team's commitment to community service, and its desire to give back.

"We want to be the definition of servant leadership," said SMC Women's Coach Jay Jenkins. "We are creating new leaders of the world and we cannot learn how to lead without being a servant. Servant leadership is a leadership style that prioritizes the needs of others over the leader's own, with the goal of creating a more just and caring world. It's based on the idea that leaders should serve first and lead second, and that the needs of others should come before the leader's own desire. 'We' over 'me.'"

"I loved sharing my love for sports with these kids, it was a great experience," added SMC freshman forward Caley Strahen.

Sophomore and former Niles basketball standout Amara Palmer was on hand and enjoyed volunteering in her community.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to make a difference, be a positive role model, and give back to my community," she said.

Fall Lecture Series to feature Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, Museum

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Brooke Clement of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum continues the Dowagiac Area History Museum's Fall Lecture Series on Wednesday, October 2 at 6 p.m. The program will examine the Presidential Library and Museum system with a focus on the Ford Library and Museum.

When the United States Archives opened the President Franklin Roosevelt Library and Museum in 1941, it established a new system for preserving the documents and artifacts associated with our nation's Presidents. Today, the United States has sixteen Presidential Libraries and Museums preserving the history of Presidents from Herbert Hoover to Barack Obama. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum in Grand Rapids is one of the finest in the nation.

Brooke Clement, who grew up in southwest Michigan and interned at the museum when it was at Southwestern Michigan College, is the Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum and has served in this role since September 2020. Brooke has held archival and supervisory positions with the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, and the Barack Obama Presidential Library. She earned her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her M.A. from Columbia University.

"When Brooke interned for me in the 2000s, she was just getting started in the museum world," according to Museum Director Steve Arseneau. "After working her way up through the National Archives, today she is one of sixteen that head up a Presidential Library and is a leader in the field."

Tim Cook of Lake Michigan College will close out the lecture series on November 6 with a program on President Theodore Roosevelt.

The program is free to museum members and $5 for non-members. Children under 18 are admitted free. Seating is on a first-come basis. Membership will be available at the museum. The museum is at the corner of Division and West Railroad streets. For more information, call the museum at 783-2560 or visit www.dowagiacmuseum.info.

Sheriff Richard J. Behnke reports that at approximately 1:51 a.m. Wednesday, his office was called to investigate a shooting that occurred at 18089 State St., Vandalia.

Police searching for suspect in Vandalia shooting

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

VANDALIA — The Cass County Sheriff's Office is searching for a suspect who reportedly shot a man after an argument ensued outside a home in Vandalia.

Sheriff Richard J. Behnke reports that at approximately 1:51 a.m. Wednesday, his office was called to investigate a shooting that occurred at 18089 State St., Vandalia. The investigation showed that two males were having a verbal argument when the argument turned physical. One male, a 24-year-old, was shot in the foot. The other male fled the scene before deputies arrived. The gunshot victim was transported to Elkhart General Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. The suspect remains at large and his name is being withheld at this time. There is no public threat currently. This investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to call the Cass County Sheriff's Office at (269) 445-1560 or the Cass County Tip Line at (800) 462-9328. Assisting agencies included: Pokagon Tribal Police Department, Dowagiac Police Department, Michigan State Police, Cassopolis Police Department, SMCAS Ambulance and Penn Fire Department with a drone.

Local LMC students earn spots on Summer 2024 Dean's Lists

COMMUNITY REPORT

BENTON HARBOR — Lake Michigan College has announced the names of students recognized for academic achievement during the 2024 Summer semester.

142 students received accolades in three categories:

•President's List, achieving a 4.0 GPA at full-time status

•The Dean's List (full time students), achieving a 3.5 GPA or higher

•The Dean's List (part time students), achieving a 3.5 GPA or higher

Part-Time Dean's List Berrien Center
Jennalee Ortega

Buchanan
Brooke Atkinson, Hannah Bradbury, Rachel Host, Melanie Lopez, Amanda Manasco, Anna Schnell

Dowagiac
Chloe Asmus, Dakotah Ulrath, Kelly Weaver

Eau Claire
Alexandra Jimenez, Kyle Johnson

Galien
Cassidy Clayton

Niles
Rachel Brenner, Pamela Curry, Nicholas Jenema, Luke O'Connor, Sara Sly, Shayne Taylor

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COMICS & PUZZLES

ADAM

YOUR LIPS ARE GROWING BACK?
SORT OF. THEY'RE STILL REALLY RAW.
SIP
AAUGHH!!! OW! THE PAIN! EXCRUCIATING!
MAYBE YOU COULD TRY LETTING YOUR COFFEE COOL OFF FIRST?
I'M IN BAD SHAPE, KATY, BUT I'M NOT A MONSTER.
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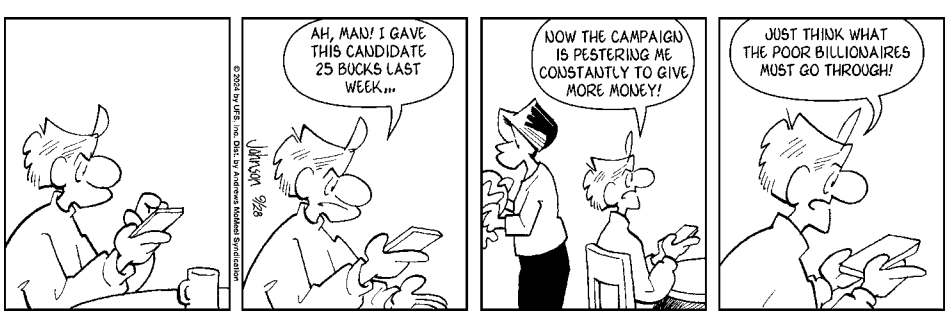
9-28

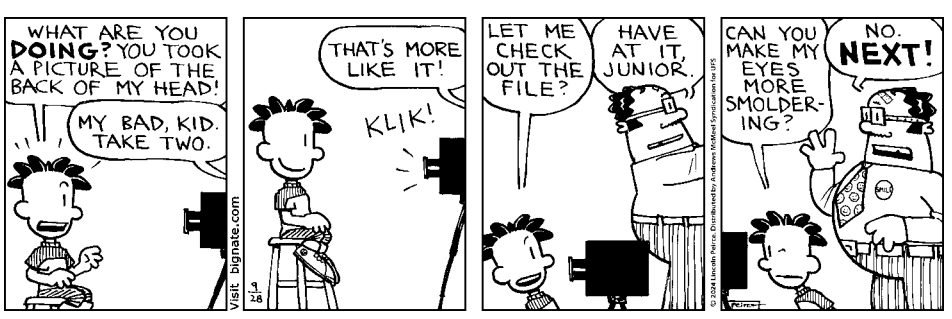
ALLEY OOP

I LIKE THE NEW NAME, DOC! I DON'T KNOW WHO TORU IS, THOUGH.
TORUS DONUTS
NOW THAT WE HAVE A SIGN, I GUESS WE NEED TO FIX UP THE INSIDE?
IT'S ALREADY DONE! I DID IT WHILE WE WERE OUT HERE TALKING!
ALL BY YOURSELF? YOU'RE INCREDIBLE!
I DON'T DISAGREE.
HEY, BUB. ME AND MY 30 GUYS ARE STILL WAITIN' FOR YOU TO PAY US. AND THERE BETTER NOT BE NO ASTERISKS!
9/28

ARLO & JANIS


AH, MAN! I GAVE THIS CANDIDATE 25 BUCKS LAST WEEK...
NOW THE CAMPAIGN IS PESTERING ME CONSTANTLY TO GIVE MORE MONEY!
JUST THINK WHAT THE POOR BILLIONAIRES MUST GO THROUGH!

BIG NATE


WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU TOOK A PICTURE OF THE BACK OF MY HEAD!
MY BAD, KID. TAKE TWO.
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
KLIK!
LET ME CHECK OUT THE FILE?
HAVE AT IT, JUNIOR.
CAN YOU MAKE MY EYES MORE SMOLDERING?
NO. NEXT!
Visit bignate.com
9/28

BORN LOSER

I JUST SENT YOU TO THE GROCERY STORE FOR EGGS. HOW DID YOU END UP WITH FOUR BAGS OF FOOD?
I WAS HUNGRY.
NEXT TIME, REMIND ME TO FEED YOU BEFORE YOU GO TO THE GROCERY STORE!
www.gocomics.com/the-born-loser
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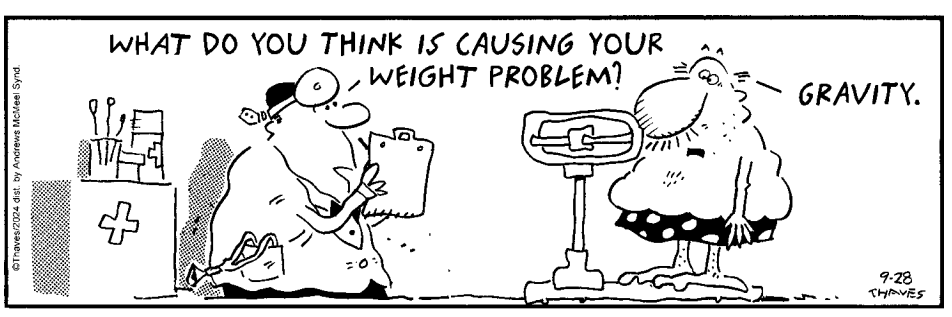
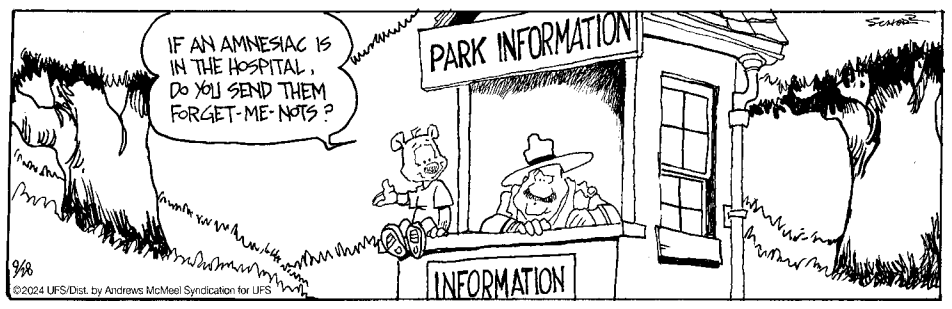
9/28

FRANK & ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS


IF AN AMNESIAC IS IN THE HOSPITAL, DO YOU SEND THEM FORGET-ME-NOTS?
PARK INFORMATION
INFORMATION
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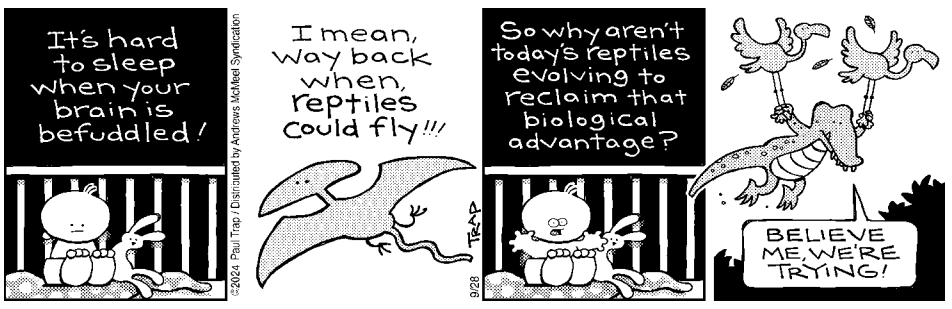
9/28

THATABABY


It's hard to sleep when your brain is befuddled!
I mean, way back when, reptiles could fly!!!
So why aren't today's reptiles evolving to reclaim that biological advantage?
BELIEVE ME, WE'RE TRYING!
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TRAP
9/28

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SODOKU PUZZLE

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

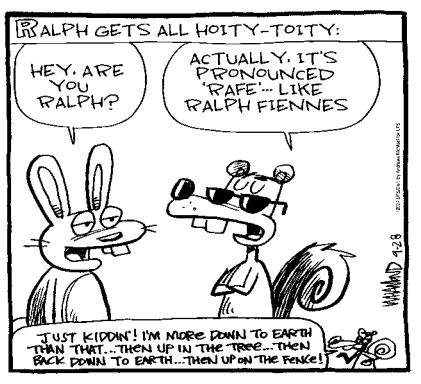
DIFFICULTY RATING: 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

				6				5
		6	4	2	8			7
2					1		8	
			8	9			7	
	5			7			2	
	8			4	5			
	9		5					6
1			7	8	4	3		
8				3				

MODERATELY CONFUSED

REALITY CHECK


RALPH GETS ALL HOITY-TOITY:
HEY, ARE YOU RALPH?
ACTUALLY, IT'S PRONOUNCED 'RAFE'... LIKE RALPH FIENNES
JUST KIDDIN'! I'M MORE DOWN TO EARTH THAN THAT...THEN UP IN THE TREE...THEN BACK DOWN TO EARTH...THEN UPON THE FENCE!
WAHAMD
4-28

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

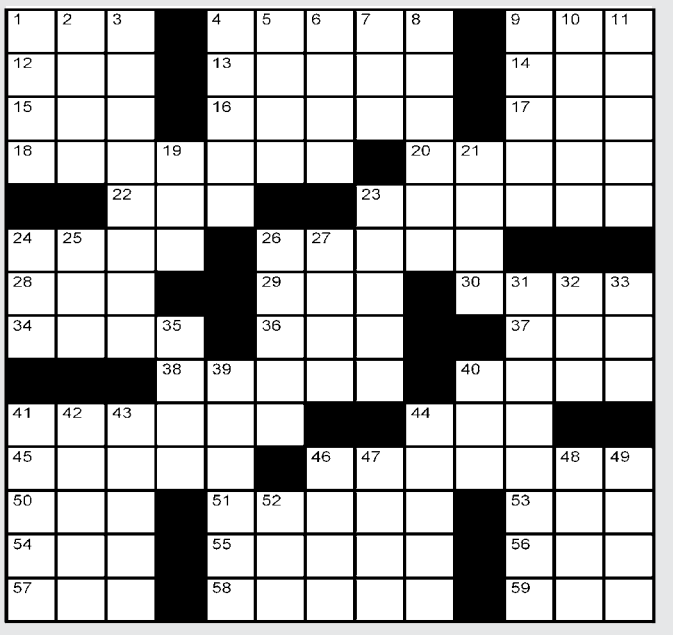
ACROSS

1 Follow a curved path
4 Like better
9 '80s sci-fi comedy
12 — Grande
13 Resembling sheep
14 Boston — Party
15 Past
16 Ascended
17 Tater —
18 Honeyed pastry
20 Think
22 Method
23 Smithereens
24 Unexpected difficulty
26 Job
28 Corn spike
29 Long arm of the —
30 Rind
34 Looks at
36 Common verb
37 Stringed instrument, for short
38 Also-ran
40 Raced
41 Accumulate (2 wds.)
44 Cheer for the team
45 Lab substances
46 Hit show byproduct
50 Transgress
51 Wyoming range
53 Kind of deer
54 Spread to dry
55 Antelope
56 Anger
57 Altar constellation
58 Ceremonies
59 Georgia airport code

DOWN

1 Graceful horse
2 Latvia's capital
3 Pots and pans
4 Raid
5 Tel —
6 Word on a card
7 The loneliest number
8 French painter
9 Garret
10 Sierra —
11 Group of three goddesses
19 Fall behind
21 Chick's cry
23 Strength
24 Understand
25 Vote against
26 Hold tight
27 Fabled runner in a race
31 Exhilaration
32 Get with effort (with "out")
33 Bulb type
35 Coaster
39 Forced removal
40 — Antonio
41 Ristorante fare
42 Colder
43 Actress — Hamilton
44 Outer layers
46 "Right away!"
47 Corn bread
48 Army post
49 Texture
52 Yale student

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



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BREVITY

THE LATEST MODEL OF NOVELTY LAPEL FLOWER WILL AUTOMATICALLY SENSE WHEN SOMEONE SNIFFS IT AND THEN ACTIVATE THE SQUIRT MECHANISM ITSELF!
IT'S THE LATEST IN SPRAY EYE TECHNOLOGY!
SQUIRT FLOWER
NEW!
GOCOMICS.COM/BREVITY 9-28
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HEART OF THE CITY

STRIKE!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD! YOU SHOULD COMPETE.
NAH, I ALREADY DO MYSTICS: THE GROUPING TOURNAMENTS. YOU GOTTA HAVE A LOW-STAKES HOBBY.
MAYBE I SHOULD GET SOME LOW-STAKES HOBBIES.
BOWLING'S PRETTY FUN.
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DEATH NOTICES

Rose Marie Krieger, 91, of Niles, Michigan, passed away on September 23, 2024. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Memorial for **Gary Lynn Maxam** who died August 24, 2024: Celebration of Gary's Life will be held at Smith's Chapel, 29858 Redfield Street, Niles at 2:00 p.m., October 3, 2024

Richard "Rick" Ernest Brett, 63, passed away on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 in Niles, Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Dorothy Jean Hess, 90, passed away on Friday, September 20, 2024 in Niles, Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

OBITUARIES

Hector "Jim" Rocha

July 23, 1934 - September 13, 2024

Hector Armando "Jim" Rocha, 90, of Wilder, Tennessee, died September 13, 2024.

His life began July 23, 1934, in Rio Grande, Texas, one of four born to Jose and Tina (Perez) Rocha.

Jim served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and was very proud of his service. He enjoyed spending time with other veterans at the VFW hall. He also enjoyed spending time outside golfing and hunting.

Jim will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by daughter, Kim and her husband, Les Zillmer of Punta Gorda, Florida; sons, Christopher and his wife, Kim Rocha of Wilder, Tennessee, Nick Rocha of Huntington Beach, California; several grandchildren, Nicholas, Kristen, Amanda, Mary; and his sister, Rosa "Cookie" and her husband Zeke Hand of Niles, MI,

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Joe "Sash" Rocha; sister Ida Bucha; and grandson, Matthew Zillmer.

Family and friends will gather Monday, September 23, 2024, from 11:00 am until time of service at 12:00 noon in Halbritter Wickens Funeral Services, 615 East Main Street, Niles.

Jim will be laid to rest Monday, September 23, 2024, at 1:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time, 12:30 pm Central Daylight Time, in Patton Cemetery, 1401 Rumely Street, LaPorte, Indiana 46350.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Halbritter Wickens Funeral Services, 615 East Main Street,

Niles. Please share a memory or a message online: halbritterwickens.com.

Robert Campbell

July 28, 1936 - September 19, 2024

Robert S. Campbell, 88, of Dowagiac, passed away on Thursday evening, September 19, 2024, at his home with his family by his side.

He was born on July 28, 1936, in Pittsburgh, PA, the son of the late John and Marie (Steiner) Campbell. Growing up in Aspinwall, PA, Bob was a 1954 graduate of Aspinwall High School. He continued his education at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA, where he earned his Master's of Science degree in education. On April 28, 1962, Bob was united in marriage to Linda G. Strickler. He was employed by Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac for many years and retired after 28 years as Dean of Financial Aid. Bob had a lovely voice, often performing solos, and was a member of the church choir for 51 years.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years - Linda Campbell; two children - Bruce Campbell and Judith Groat; two grandchildren - Austin and Bailey Groat; nephew - John (Sharon) Campbell III; and three nieces - Pam Campbell, Lou Ann (Tom) Peterson, and Barbara (Tim) Schwob; stepsiblings Irene (Alan) Weirritty and Skip (Kathy) Meinhardt.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother and sister-in-law - John Jr. and Lois Campbell; and stepmother - Irene Campbell.

A service to celebrate Bob's life will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at First United Methodist Church, 326 N. Lowe St, Dowagiac, where friends may visit with the family from 10:00 AM until the time of service. Memorial contributions in Bob's name may be directed to First United Methodist Church or Southwestern Michigan College Foundation, 58900 Cherry Grove Road, Dowagiac, MI. Arrangements were entrusted to Clark Chapel - Starks Family Funeral Homes, Dowagiac. Please visit Bob's personalized webpage to share a memory or leave a condolence to his family at www.clarkch.com.

Laura Skillings

Laura Skillings, 61, of Lansing, Michigan, passed away on September 5, 2024, after a monthlong illness. The youngest of three, Laura was known for her direct yet playful spirit, and her kind and generous support of others.

Laura attended Waverly High School, Lansing Community College, obtained a history degree from Western Michigan University, and a master's degree in education from Colorado State University.

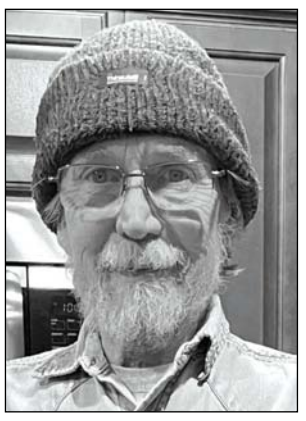
Laura became a community college counselor, working with non-traditional students in: Colby, Kansas; Page, Arizona; Fort Collins, Colorado; and, Niles, Michigan. She guided students with wisdom, practicality, and humor, helping them navigate the challenges of academia and personal strife.

Laura enjoyed friends, University of Michigan football, scrapbooking, reading, and traveling. Her passion in life were her rescue cats—Kitty, Kit & Kat, and Luna.

Laura will be deeply missed by her sister Carol Skillings, brother-in-law Thomas Stanton, brother

Jerry Skillings, sister-in-law Abby Spector, and niece Anna Skillings, as well as cousins, devoted friends and numerous acquaintances. She was predeceased by her parents, Dorothy Matz Skillings and Walter Skillings.

Memories may be recorded on the Dignity Memorial website. Contributions in Laura's memory may be made to Saved by Zade, a local cat rescue organization.



Timmy D. Newton

March 6, 1959 - September 24, 2024

Timmy "Tim" Dan Newton, 65, of Cassopolis, died suddenly Tuesday September 24, 2024, in the comfort of his family's presence.

His life began March 6, 1959 in Jonesboro, Arkansas, the third of eight born to Billy and Violet Newton. He married Glenna Peterson June 27, 1987 in Cassopolis Michigan. She survives.

Tim had a big heart and would help anyone. He was a hard worker, sometimes working multiple jobs. He was an electrician, but also was a mechanic, painted cars, welded and a jack of all trades. Tim liked to keep busy. He enjoyed camping, kayaking and being outdoors. Tim was the deep- fried turkey master. He loved to cook, work in his garden, and especially spend time with his family.

Tim will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Glenna Newton; one daughter, Danielle Kasper of Berrien Springs; one son, Chris (Lacey) Newton of Cassopolis; two step-daughters, Veronica (Robert) Wallace, Kristina Compton; six grandchildren; two great grandchildren; three sisters, Shiela Hensley, Mari Hansen, Ruby Hyser; one brother, Jerry Newton and a host of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son, Trenton Newton; two grandsons; sister, Jane Fogg; brothers, Mark Newton, Pete Newton, and his parents.

Family and friends will gather Monday, September 30, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. until time of service at 12 Noon in Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, 202 North Broadway Street, Cassopolis.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Tim be made to American Cancer Society, donate.cancer.org

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

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Pobocik Chapel
Three Oaks
269.756.3831
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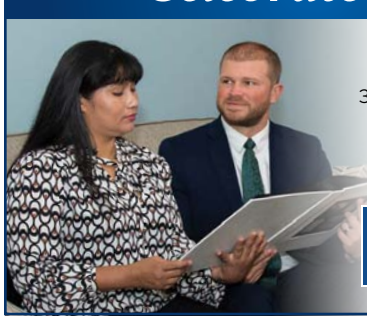
Celebrate a life

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CAMBIO COMMUNITIES

FUTURE

Continued from page A1

nurses, a potential veterinarian, an animal science and zoology for exotic animal research major and a possible Roadrunner who would transfer to WMU to combine early childhood education with singing.

"I want to go into performing along with teaching," she said. "I want someplace nearby and have definitely been considering SMC."

Eleven high schools — Hartford, Dowagiac, Marcellus, Cassopolis Ross Beatty, Decatur, Lakeshore, Coloma, Countryside, Covert, Sturgis and South Haven visited with more than 30 colleges to delve into such timely topics as admissions, specific programs and financial aid.

"The student energy was great and we received numerous compliments from the college reps on the space and hospitality," SMC Adult Recruitment Manager Megan Kupres said.

Participating colleges besides SMC in 1st Source Bank Fieldhouse on the Dowagiac campus included Albion College, Alma College, Andrews University, Aquinas College, Baker College, Calvin College, Central Michigan University, Detroit's College for Creative Studies, Eastern Michigan University, Ferris State University, Glen Oaks Community College, Goshen College, Grand Valley State University, Tiffin, Ohio's Heidelberg College, Cleveland's Hiram University, Kalamazoo College, Kendall College of Art and Design, Flint's Kettering University, Southfield's Lawrence Technological University, Michigan Army National Guard, Michigan State Police, Michigan State University, Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, Northwood University, Oakland University, Saginaw Valley State University, Siena Heights University, The University of Toledo, University of Detroit Mercy, University of Michigan, Western Governors University, Western Michigan University and WyoTech.

Technology is streamlining college fairs.

"StriveScan has dramatically improved efficiency and equity at fairs by removing the need for students to physically write their names on contact cards," Kupres said about an app launched in 2020.

Students register via their own phones. A barcode is texted/emailed to them immediately. Colleges download the StriveScan app to scan student phones and get access to their information instantly.

"College reps are able to get more accurate information, which we then use to send targeted communications, and students can connect with more colleges by cutting down the time they spend at each table. For example, SMC had 91 scans — the most we've ever had from a fair," Kupres said. "It took off in Indiana, but is starting to catch on in Michigan."

"A cool feature in StriveScan," she added, "is if a student is unable to attend, they can create a StriveScan account and request information from schools they are interested in."

SMC last hosted a career fair before the pandemic in September 2018. The college previously hosted this event in the evening. This was the first time it was offered during the daytime to invite school groups.

For those seeking more in-depth information about SMC and the new Green Light Guarantee, the college is holding an open house Oct. 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Student Activity Center, off Dailey Road of the Dowagiac campus.

Register for the open house today at swmich.edu/open_house. If you have questions before Oct. 1, call (800) 456-8675, ext. 2135, or email enrollment@swmich.edu.

CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

A	R	C	■	F	A	V	O	R	■	A	L	F
R	I	O	■	O	V	I	N	E	■	T	E	A
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E	Y	E	S	■	A	R	E	■	■	U	K	E
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A	C	I	D	S	■	S	P	I	N	O	F	F
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SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

4	1	8	9	6	7	2	3	5
5	3	6	4	2	8	1	9	7
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9	5	3	1	7	6	4	2	8
7	8	1	2	4	5	9	6	3
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Notre Dame makes 'historic' investment in affordability and access

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — The University of Notre Dame announced a historic expansion to its affordability and accessibility initiatives, becoming the first highly selective faith-based university in the United States to be need-blind for all students, both domestic and international. Notre Dame's 18th President, Rev. Robert A. Dowd, C.S.C., made this announcement during his address at his Inauguration Ceremony on Friday. In charting a course for Notre Dame, Father Dowd articulated the University's unwavering commitment as the world's leading Catholic research university to ensuring that a Notre Dame education should be affordable for all students.

Representing a historic financial aid commitment, Pathways to Notre Dame includes two significant initiatives: a new no-loan policy for undergraduate students, ensuring middle- and low-income families who are admitted will be able to afford attendance, and an expansion of its need-blind policy — an institutional commitment to not consider a student's financial circumstances when deciding whether to admit them — to include both domestic and international students. Notre Dame is now one of only nine highly selective colleges and universities that have a need-blind admissions policy for all students.

"We want an undergraduate student body that reflects the rich diversity of the Catholic community in and beyond the United States, which requires a Notre Dame education be both accessible and affordable," Father Dowd said. "We are profoundly grateful for the extraordinary generosity of those benefactors who have made it possible for us to take this important next step in ensuring that every student who is admitted will have the opportunity to attend the University, no matter their financial circumstances or where in the world they call home."

"The University has throughout its history been committed to welcoming students from all walks of life and providing them with a distinctive Notre Dame education, one that seeks to educate the mind as well as the heart," John B. Veihmeyer, chair of the Board of Trustees, said. "Today's announcement will ensure that the University is able to carry forward this proud tradition in important new ways, welcoming students from across the U.S. and around the globe and creating an even more vibrant

See AFFORDABILITY, Page A8

IUSB committed to first-generation student success

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Indiana University South Bend has strengthened its commitment to the success of first-generation students by joining other IU campuses in a higher education network focused on these students.

The First Scholars Network works to create transformational change for first-generation students. The network serves 429 institutions from 49 states, and the participating professionals share evidence-based practices and resources that pertain to student success.

"We are so excited to be a part of this network with the other IU campuses. In addition to the resources, networking and support, it will help us enhance initiatives for First Gen students across campus," said Kory Vitangeli, vice chancellor for student engagement.

IU South Bend will be starting a new student organization called First Gen Titans to provide mentoring and programming to first generation students, who make up a third of the student body.

"This effort coincides directly with one of the pillars in our IU 2030 strategic plan to strengthen student enrollment, retention and success," said IU South Bend Chancellor Susan Elrod. "We know that helping first generation students contributes to their social mobility and reinforces the value of higher education in our interconnected knowledge economy."

The university's strategic plan includes a commitment to providing an affordable education and student experiences that prepare graduates for success in their careers. The percentage of first-generation student enrollment is projected to increase because of the state's investment in college-going programs.

The First Scholars Network uses a multi-phase model to help higher education institutions take incremental steps to benefit first-generation students, and the networking allows members to share data and ideas, and model innovations.

"Having all IU campuses participate in the First Scholars Network will enable the university to be collectively focused and dedicated to equitably supporting IU students and ensuring first-generation student success," said Julie Payne-Kirchmeier, Indiana University's vice president for student success.

DÉCOR

Continued from page A1

Donations can be made online at www.dowagiacchamber.com. Look for the Decorate Dowagiac button at the bottom of the website's landing page, or on the Chamber's Facebook Page. Checks should be made payable to Decorate Dowagiac, and mailed to the Dowagiac Chamber of Commerce, 200 Depot Drive, Dowagiac, MI 49047.

BUDGET

Continued from page A1

the Whole meeting and heard talk about funds being moved around and drug enforcement millage funds being used to fund a new prosecutor position and a new sheriff's deputy position.

"I want to know how much has been used and where it was put," she said. "Was it used for law enforcement or did it go somewhere else in the budget? I want a transparent board and transparent commissioners."

The action on the budget came after months of work by county staff to develop it. Newton said at last week's Committee of the Whole meeting that work on the budget starts in the spring as he and department heads project staffing needs.

"There is a lot of effort, blood, sweat and tears that go into the process," he said.

County Board Chairman Jeremiah Jones said last week that he wants to see commissioners focus more on the budget throughout the year.

"It's a good point to see where we're at throughout the year," he said. "So if others come asking for money, we'd have a better idea of how much money we have."

"This year we kept saying yes you can have this or yes you can have that and now we had a $3 million deficit and we never talked about this," he added. "People have asked how did this happen. As long as I'm chair, every committee of the whole meeting will have a discussion on the budget."

DRIVER

Continued from page A1

aforementioned traffic violation. The suspect vehicle then fled from the attempted traffic stop and the deputy gave chase engaging in a brief vehicular pursuit.

The pursuit ended when the suspect vehicle lost control attempting to negotiate a curve and crashed into a commercial building in the 300 block of Lincoln Ave. in the City of Niles. The suspect was the sole occupant of the vehicle he was driving and sustained non-life-threatening injuries. The suspect was taken into custody without incident at the scene of the crash.

The suspect vehicle came to rest inside the building which then ignited a structure fire causing

extensive damage to the building and the vehicle.

The suspect vehicle in this incident was later determined not to be stolen. However, it was a vehicle of interest in an unrelated crime in Evergreen Park, IL. The Berrien County Sheriff's Office is coordinating with the Evergreen Park Police Department in the furtherance of their investigation.

Involved agencies include Berrien County Sheriff's Office Patrol, Berrien County Sheriff's Office Niles Township Patrol, Niles Police Department, Niles Fire Department, SMCAS Ambulance, Niles Township Fire Department, Buchanan City Fire Department, Howard Township Fire Department, Berrien County Public Safety Dispatch Center, Millin Towing.

Leaderpub.com will be updated when more information is available.

LAURA

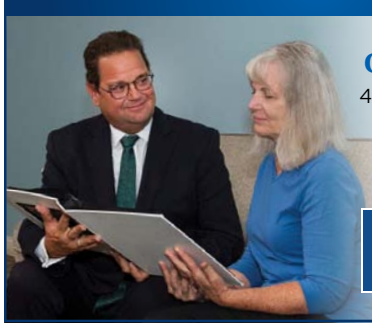
Continued from page A2

yellow jacket ground nest and many of us got stung. Instead of just treating and forgetting, we created an information book and learned all about why the yellow jackets did this.

How has education changed in the last 10 years? More opportunities to learn on computers because for the most part each student has their own computer (no more computer labs). Computers are utilized to reinforce and entice learning on a daily basis. Also, it gives teachers immediate information on their students strengths and weaknesses. This helps plan and individualized instruction. In the past we would wait months for this information.

What is your best advice to parents to help their child continue to grow academically? To read and to try and give them experiences that they can draw upon in life.

If my students learn one thing this year, I hope it is... to be kind and respect one another! (and to know their math facts!)

Celebrate a life

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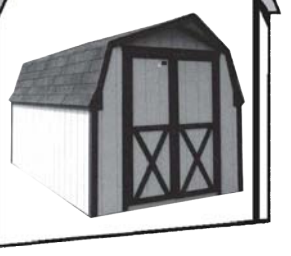

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AFFORDABILITY

Continued from page A7

learning environment for all."

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FOOTBALL

CASSOPOLIS

FALLS TO HARTFORD 37-36 IN HOMECOMING THRILLER

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

CASSOPOLIS —The Cassopolis football team dropped a hazy Homecoming night heartbreaker to Hartford Friday, Sept. 20.

The Huskies scored the go-ahead touchdown with just over one minute to play and its defense stopped quarterback Lucas Williams near the end zone as time expired to earn a 37-36 victory over Cassopolis in a Southwest 10 thriller on the Rangers' homecoming at William F. Scott Field.

"We had ample opportunities to win the game," Lee said. "This is a young team so we're going to build off of this. Cass is gonna be back. It's gonna be fine."

Trailing 37-36 in the closing seconds, Williams found receiver Jaylen Pratt for a 34-yard pass play on 4th and 1 to Hartford 1-yard line. A delay of game penalty against Cassopolis put the ball on the six-yard line. With 16 second left, Williams went to Pratt in the end zone but he was unable to hold onto the catch.

With nine seconds remaining, the Rangers opted for one more chance at the end zone before trying for a field goal but Williams was tackled while running to his left as time expired.

"All I ask is for them to give me the best that they've got and compete," Lee said. "I was disappointed in the outcome. We had a chance with nine seconds left to win the game. They fought and I can't ask for anything else as a head coach."

After a slow start to the game, the two teams began trading touchdowns starting in the second quarter. Williams and Higgins touchdown runs gave the Rangers a 14-8 lead at halftime. The game was 22-22 after three quarters.

Sophomore Lane Leach led the Rangers with 16 tackles on defense. Williams completed 7 of 19 passes for 228 yards and one touchdown pass and added a 2-yard rushing touchdown and Anthony Higgins had five carries for 81 yards and a 73-yard touchdown.

"(Williams and Higgins) are a couple of our captains. When we need something done, they usually do it," Lee said. "Williams is a sophomore, he hasn't played a lot of football but he's grown up. (Higgins) has been here, he's taken the lumps with us, but he's a senior and knows what it takes to compete and he did it again tonight. We can't ask much more from these kids, they competed the whole way."

Cassopolis (0-4) will regroup and gear up to face Centreville (1-3) at 7 p.m. Friday at Centreville. While the loss was a bitter pill to swallow, Lee believes the team is heading in the right direction.

"We'll break down this film on Monday and build off of it," Lee said. "This is a good thing – we could have did better but we're going in the right direction. It's not going to happen overnight – it's' a marathon, not a sprint. That's what we tell these boys every day. Keep building, keep building and they got better tonight as a team."

Cassopolis 0 14 8 14
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MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

TRACK

Local club track program celebrates season with banquet

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — A local AAU track team recently celebrated its season with its inaugural team banquet.

Friends and family gathered at St. Mark Catholic Parish Saturday, Sept. 21 to celebrate the accomplishments of Team Love Track. The event featured food as well as an award ceremony.

Founded three years ago by former Niles track standout Andre Love, the program consists of athletes ranging from 5 to 18 years of age from throughout Southwest Michigan who compete in indoor and outdoor meets across the state.

"A lot of these athletes go to the middle school and the high school have been running for me for the past four or five years," Love said. "This was something to celebrate. This means a lot to me. It's small but it means a lot to me."

Love, who is also a pastor, said he created the program to prepare athletes to compete at the AAU Junior Olympic Games and is proud of his team's efforts. Last year, 24 members of the team qualified for the Junior Olympic Games.

15 members of the Team Love Track club team qualified for the 2024 AAU Junior Olympic Games, which featured 19,000 athletes and an estimated 40,000 spectators competing in a variety of sports, including track and field, swimming, martial arts, and more.

The names of qualifiers are as follows: Aydan Mccary (Senior, 14.5 110-meter hurdles), Caleb Patterson, Carter Brann, Olen Simmons, Andrew Love, Chad Patterson, Danyel Nelson Jr., John Brickley (Seventh grade, 2:11 in 800), Addison Kessler, Al-

See BANQUET, Page B2

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Friends and family gathered at St. Mark Catholic Parish Saturday, Sept. 21 to celebrate the accomplishments of Team Love Track.

VOLLEYBALL

SMC Volleyball takes down KVCC

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — The SMC Volleyball took down KVCC in a five set conference thriller 25-12, 25-13, 25-27, 21-25, and 15-11.

"One of our goals this season is of course to win all of our matches but to focus on improving our conference win record on the road," said head coach Jenny Nate. "Tonight, we came out firing with energy, but then in the third set, we let off the gas, lost a bit of our energy, and started playing a little too safe. It was a great reminder to play SMC Volleyball the entire match every point and never let up. We were able to dial it back in and came out aggressive in the final set to finish it. We will take this experience to the court with us tomorrow against Macomb and focus on playing aggressively every single point."

The Roadrunners are now 13-4 overall and 3-1 in conference play.

Leading serving scorers: Gia Jania 18 points, 2 aces, Talan Hiemstra 13 points, 1 ace, Cadence Knight 12 points, 3 aces, Josie West 8 points, 1 ace, Ryli Burks 5 points, 1 ace

Kills: Josie West 16, Kallie Solloway 13, Abi Marquis 10, Gia Jania 10, Talan Hiemstra 7, Ryli Burks 7

Blocks: Josie West 2, Kallie Solloway 2, Gia Jania 1, Ryli Burks 1, Abi Marquis 1

Digs: Cadence Knight 29, Anna Johnson 19, Josie West 17, Ryli Burks 14, Amanda Jones 14, Gia Jania 6

Assists: Anna Johnson 27, Ryli Burks 20

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

FOOTBALL

Football roundup: Edwardsburg football shuts down Three Rivers 32-0

JEFF DOUGLAS | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

EDWARDSBURG — The Eddies earned a 32-point shutout victory over the visiting Wildcats last week. Grady Ostrander had 65 yards on 10 carries and two touchdowns and Grant Griffin added two touchdown runs and Brody Schimpa added a 3-yard touchdown. Edwardsburg led 19-0 at halftime.

Niles 56, Otsego 0

The Niles football team extended its win streak to three games Friday, Sept. 20 against visiting Otsego.

The Vikings jumped out to a 56-point lead and went on to win 56-0.

Sam Rucker scored five touchdowns on seven carries totaling 143 yards and Paul Hess had eight carries for 121 yards and one touchdown while Elijah Norris added seven for 55 and a touchdown. Quarterback Talen Bennett completed 3 of 5 passes for 64 yards and a touchdown pass to Brenden Olsen, who caught two passes for 60 yards. The Vikings outgained the Bulldogs 466-47 in total yards.

On defense, Bryce Young led the team in tackles with five and Brandon Hamilton, Ward Cheney and Sam Rucker each had a sack.

Dowagiac 32, Marshall 30

The Dowagiac football team completed the comeback with a 32-30 road win over Marshall last week. Trailing 22-12 entering the fourth quarter, the Chieftains were able to score three touchdowns in the final frame to secure the victory.

Kaleb Smith led the way with 120 rushing yards and four touchdowns.

Buchanan 47, Benton Harbor 6

The Buchanan football team took care of business Friday night against Benton Harbor. The Bucks dominated both sides of the ball on their way to a 47-6 win over the Tigers. Five different Bucks found the end zone on the ground: Leland Payne (nine carries for 92 yards), Gabe Tompkins (seven carries, 73 yards), Jake Franklin (two carries, 29 yards), Tristan Nesbitt (17-yard touchdown) and Max Cornelius (two carries, 14 yards). Jake Franklin completed 1 of 1 passes for 13 yards. On defense, Isaiah Nelson led the team with six tackles and Ryann Hickok had five tackles and one sack, Ethan Frame tallied a sack and Nesbitt had an interception.

Berrien Springs 63, Brandywine 16

The Brandywine football team found tough sledding against the Shamrocks of Berrien Springs Friday night, falling 63-16 in Lakeland Conference play. The Bobcats trailed 56-8 at halftime.

Kaeden Warfield completed 2 of 4 passes for 44 yards, one touchdown and an interception while carrying the ball 14 times for 70 yards and one touchdown. Carter Sobecki added 44 yards on 12 carries and Kaden Santana grabbed a 44-yard touchdown pass.

On defense, Sobecki tallied 24 tackles.

FOOTBALL

Calvin football to face Kalamazoo in first-ever MIAA game

COMMUNITY REPORT

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

KALAMAZOO — The Calvin University football team will play its historic first MIAA conference game on Saturday night. The game at Kalamazoo College will be played under the lights at Kalamazoo's Angell Field. The game is the first night game at Kalamazoo since September 17, 1960.

Calvin is under the direction of head coach Trent Figg who guides his 110-member roster into year one this fall.

The Lead-Up – Calvin is in its first season of intercollegiate football. The Knights are playing in their MIAA opener this evening. Calvin owns lopsided wins over Oberlin (50-6) and Anderson (66-12) and has a 34-24 loss to Concordia (Wis.) in between. Kalamazoo is off to a 3-0 start for the third straight year. The Hornets own victories over Austin (26-20), Kenyon (28-7) and Manchester (55-0). Kalamazoo is bidding to open the year 4-0 for the first time since 2018 when it won its first seven games and finished 7-3 overall. Tonight is the first night game at Kalamazoo's Angell Field since September 17, 1960. The Hornets did play night football in 2011 but it was at Waldo Stadium across the street at Western Michigan University during the renovation of Angell Field.

Week Three Recap – Calvin rolled to a 66-12 victory at Anderson University last Saturday afternoon behind 475 yards of total offense including a season-high 225 yards on the ground. All four Calvin quarterbacks got into the game. Starter Chase Bradman was 13 of 21 for 175 yards and three touchdowns. Freshman Drake Irwin was 5 of 6 passing for a touchdown and ran one in for a score from one yard out. Freshman Hayden Slegers was 2 of 2 passing for 7 yards while redshirt freshman Luca Prior was 1 of 1 for 12 yards. Jaier Harden broke loose for 111 yards on the ground on nine carries while scoring a pair of rushing touchdowns. Freshman Hunter Hogan had 3 catches for 81 yards and a score. Luke Michmerhuizen had four catches for 43 yards and a score while freshman Baxter McCoy had three catches for 39 yards and a score. Freshman Sal Ruffino was 1 of 2 kicking on field goal attempts, connecting on a 28-yard boot. He also connected on nine extra-point attempts. Defensively junior Jair Nowlin had nine tackles with one interception. Senior Paul Vander-Ploeg collected seven tackles and broke up one pass. Former Dowagiac standout Isiah Hill totaled three tackles.

MIAA Preseason Poll – Calvin was picked to finish eighth out of eight teams in the 2024 MIAA preseason poll with defending league champion Alma selected as the MIAA's pre-season favorite. Kalamazoo was picked to finish seventh.

A Look Ahead – The Knights return home next weekend to host two-time defending MIAA champion Alma at 1 p.m. in front of a Calvin Homecoming crowd at Eagles Stadium.

VOLLEYBALL

"Buchanan volleyball goes 2-2 at Portage Invite

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

PORTAGE — The Buchanan volleyball team went 2-2 at the Portage Invite Saturday, Sept. 21.

The Bucks defeated Sturgis 25-11,25-14 and Otsego 27-25,25-19 and were defeated by Battle Creek Lakeview 18-25,20-25 and Unity Christian 17-25,18-25.

Chloe Aalfs led the Bucks with 32 kills, 20 digs, four blocks and four aces and Alyssa Carson had 22 kills, four blocks and five aces. Finnley Kehoe had 20 digs and six aces, Emily Holt had 31 digs, Sophia Bachman 17 digs, Izzy Tibbles eight kills and Addy Warmbein four blocks.

Buchanan is now 15-2 on the season.

BANQUET

Continued from page B1

ani Scott (Seventh grade, 12.95 100-meter dash), Gianna Ball, Haylei Patterson, Loryana Harris (4-10 high jump), Madison Kessler, Trenyse Mcginnis.

"We've had an amazing year," Love said. "I thank God for the parents that trust me with their children because I coach at a level that tests them mentally, physically and spiritually. It's been amazing."

For more information about Team Love Track and how to get involved, contact Love at icarechhurchniles@gmail.com.

VOLLEYBALL

Dowagiac volleyball goes 1-2 at Bridgman quad

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

BRIDGMAN — The Dowagiac volleyball team went 1-2 at the Bridgman quad Monday night.

The Chieftains were defeated by Lakeshore 24-26 and 20-25, while they defeated Bridgman 17-25 27-25 15-13. Dowagiac lost to Decatur in its third match of the night, 25-14 18-25 10-15.

"Last night I was extremely proud of the performance by my team. We fought hard and went all out during each point," said head coach Amber Todd. "We are working on improving our defense and it showed last night. Our next goal is to build on our offense and cut back on unforced hitting errors. As a whole we are really starting to play as a team, now we just need to build on consistency and finishing games."

Dowagiac (10-14) will host Brandywine at 6 p.m. Thursday in Lakeland Conference play.

Kills

Emily Henry 3, Ava Nate 7, Riley Todd 8, Claire Hess 1, Marlie Carpenter 7, Zabrina Shivers 2, Tessa Deering 10, Brianna Campbell 10

Aces

Hanah McCuddy 4, Riley Todd 6, Emerson Kruger 1, Claire Hess 5, Brenna Mott 1, Marlie Carpenter 1, Zabrina Shivers 6

Assists

Hanah McCuddy 20, Claire Hess 17, Brenna Mott 1, Marlie Carpenter 1, Zabrina Shivers 3, Tessa Deering 1, Tatiyana Lara 1

Digs

Emily Henry 2, Hanah McCuddy 14, Ava Nate 3, Riley Todd 11, Emerson Kruger 1, Claire Hess 8, Brenna Mott 6, Marlie Carpenter 2, Zabrina Shivers 18, Tessa Deering 17, Brianna Campbell 2, Tatiyana Lara 2

Blocks

Emily Henry 2, Ava Nate 2, Riley Todd 2, Marlie Carpenter 7, Tessa Deering 2, Brianna Campbell 1

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574-323-0423

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(269)423-8469 Cell - (269)423-8788 Biz
Hard Times Family Restaurant
Downtown Decatur
(269)423-8788 or (269)423-8655

Miscellaneous For Sale

For sale, a refurbished mid-2019 Apple Macbook Pro with .4 GHz Intel Core i5 (13.3 inch, 8GB RAM, 256GB SSD) Space Gray (Renewed)
Brand Apple
Model Name MV962LL/A
Screen Size 13.3 Inches
Color Space Gray
Hard Disk Size 256 GB
CPU Model Core i5
Ram Memory Installed Size 8 GB
Operating System Mac OS
Special Feature IPS Retina Display, True Tone Technology, Touch Bar | Touch ID Sensor
Graphics Card Description Integrated
Asking $500. It is still in the box.

Also for sale, a RIF6 adjustable height standing desk converter — 32-inch wide laptop riser or dual monitor workstation. Easily sit or stand with gas spring lift. Still in the box. Asking $75. Will sell in combo with the computer or separately.

Call (269)462-0183

Want to Buy Merchandise

FREON WANTED:
Certified buyer looking for R11, R12, R500 & more!
Call Clarissa at
312-535-8384

WANTED
STANDING TIMBER
Large Michigan lumber manufacturer seeking land owners with 25 or more mature hardwood trees to sell
Call: (517)566-8061
qualityhardwoodsinc.com

Notices

General Notices

NEED TO SELL SOME FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, OR EVEN YOUR CAR??
CALL THE CLASSIFIEDS AND ADVERTISE NOW!
269-591-6105

Community Events

University of Notre Dame du Lac in Notre Dame, Indiana, duLac@nd.edu

Rentals

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Reach the county for less using Leader Publications classifieds. Need a quick quote? Submit your ad online at LeaderPub.com.
Call 269-591-6105.

Standard & Accessible Units Now Available
One bedroom independent living apartments available for older adults (62 and older) & physically handicapped (55 and older). Annual income not to exceed $33,800 for couples and $29,550 for single. Rent based on 30% of net income. Rent includes heat, electric, water, trash, satellite TV, and a/c.
For more information, contact Sheryl DeRyder, Manager
Stone Lake Woods, Inc.
335 W. State St.
Cassopolis, MI
269-445-8040

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Looking for Large Storage Space in Niles or Buchanan Area. All items are clean, no junk. Call (269)262-0162

Transportation

Automobiles

2021 Kia Forte-Blue
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Only $750 down!
$350 a month!
No Interest! No banks!
We do all our financing in house!
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Only $750 down!
$350 a month!
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We do all our financing in house!
Call Scarlett Auto Sales today and ask about stock #1915!
Call 269-461-4197

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TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
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Additional savings for military, health workers and first responders

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriemetalroofs.com/erie-licenses/. VA License Number: 2705029944

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION
TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024
JEFFERSON, CALVIN, LAGRANGE, PENN TOWNSHIPS
CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF JEFFERSON, CALVIN, LAGRANGE, PENN TOWNSHIP:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of Jefferson, Calvin, LaGrange, and Penn Townships who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the Township Clerk; the office of the County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office; or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at mi.gov/vote and mailed to the Township Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Tuesday, October 22, 2024.**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.497) at the Township Clerk's office, located at and during the following times:

Jefferson Township
24725 Jefferson Center St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 445-3931 x 7
Tuesdays 9:00am-1:00pm
Sat, November 2nd 8am-4pm
By appointment

Calvin Township
18727 Mt. Zion St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 476-2620
Thursday evenings by appointment
Sat, November 2nd 8am-4pm

LaGrange Township
24863 Pokagon Hwy.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 233-4004
Saturday, Nov. 2 nd 9am-5pm
By appointment

Penn Township
60717 S. Main St.
Vandalia, MI 49095
(574) 903-0826
Sat, November 2nd 7am-11am
Sun, November 3rd 3pm-7pm
By appointment

And Election Day, Tuesday, November 5 th from 7:00 am-8:00 pm at the Jefferson, Calvin, LaGrange, and Penn Township Clerk's Offices.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Jefferson, Calvin, LaGrange, and Penn Township electors will be voting on the following offices:
U.S. President, U.S. Senator, Representative in Congress, Representative in State Legislature, State Board of Education Members, Regent of the University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, Governor of Wayne State University, County Offices: Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk & Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner, Surveyor, County Commissioner, Township Offices: Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer, Trustee, Nonpartisan Judicial: State Justice of Supreme Court (partial term), State Justice of Supreme Court (full term), Judge of Court of Appeals, Judge of Probate Court, Board of Trustees Member Southwestern Michigan College, Local School Board Members for Cassopolis and Edwardsburg School Districts, Vandalia Village President (Penn Twp.)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Jefferson Township electors will be voting on the following ballot proposal:

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP RENEWAL OF ROAD MILLAGE:
ROADS MILLAGE NOT TO EXCEED 1 MIL ($1.00 ON EACH $1000.00 OF TAXABLE VALUE) FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS BEGINNING IN THE YEAR 2025.

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Township Clerk's Office listed above. A sample ballot may be viewed at mi.gov/vote.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ALL ELECTIONS; REGISTERED VOTERS MAY CONTACT THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FOR AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT BY CALLING THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES.

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF JEFFERSON, PENN, LAGRANGE, AND CALVIN TOWNSHIPS, CASS COUNTY, MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Accuracy Test for the November 5, 2024 General Election will be conducted for the above Townships on the following dates and locations:

LaGrange Township
LaGrange Township Hall
58253 M-62 Cassopolis, MI
October 10, 2024 at noon

Jefferson Township
Jefferson Township Hall
24725 Jefferson Center St. Cassopolis, MI
October 15, 2024 at 8am

Penn Township
Penn Township Hall
60717 S. Main St. Vandalia, MI
October 14, 2024 at 6pm

Calvin Township
William J Robinson Community Building
18727 Mt. Zion Rd. Cassopolis, MI
October 10, 2024 at 6pm

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer used to tabulate the results of the November 5, 2024 General Election have been prepared in accordance with the law.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodation should contact the clerk's office.

Jennifer Brunner	Chelsa Greathouse	Tasha McCoy	Michelle Anderson
Jefferson Twp Clerk	Penn Twp Clerk	LaGrange Twp	Clerk Calvin Twp Clerk
(269) 445-3941 x 7	(574) 903-0826	(269) 233-4004	(269) 476-2620

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It's a power move.™
Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at $535.
Call 205-484-9766
to schedule your free quote!
Terms and Conditions apply.
GENERAC

Boats & Watercraft

2015 Polar Kraft TX 165 Bass Fishing Boat
Boat has very low mileage. Seller mainly used the trolling motor. Didn't have much time for fishing. Price is for boat, Trailmaster trailer, trolling motor, Mercury BigFoot 60 HP boat motor and fish finder equipment.
If I do not answer, leave a message.
Pictures available via text.
$17,900.00 OBO.
574-850-1938
269-228-1216

Motorcycles & ATV's

1999 Kawasaki Voyager 12 Touring Bike New Carlisle Area. Good condition. 80k road miles. $2,000 firm. Call 574-220-4275 or 574-234-8038

Services

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269-591-0100

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Handyman Services

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269-684-0349-Home

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•Minor Electric
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Home Health Aides

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•*Demo Clean-Outs*
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Miscellaneous Services

AUCTION
Bartlette Online Estate Auction bid now through Oct. 6. Antique Ford, Chevy cars and parts. Tractors, field equipment, tools & antiques. MichiganAuction.com to bid, photos. Call Leist Auctioneers for details. 833-323-2243

Tessman Online Estate Auction. Bidding opens through 10-8-24. Rifles, 16-foot bass boat, motors, trailer, 1930s tractor, riding mower, tiller, tools, shop tools, collectibles, more. To bid visit Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com. Questions, call 1-800-835-0495.

BUILDINGS
BUILT RITE POLE BUILDINGS State-wide. Prices starting at - 24x40x10 - $18,300.00. 30x40x10 -$20,400.00. Erected on your site. Call for price not shown on any size building or go to www.builtritepolebuilding-smi.com. Or call 989-259-2015 or 989-600-1010.

BUSINESS SERVICES
METAL ROOFING regular and shingle style, HALF OFF SPECIAL COLORS! Lifetime hail asphalt shingles. Vinyl siding. Licensed and insured builders for 40 years. AMISH CREW. 800-983-0462.

MATTRESSES
Adjustable Bed Brand New with mattress. Made is U.S.A., in plastic, with warranty. Retail cost $3,995.00, sacrifice for $875.00. Call for showing or delivery: DanDanTheMattressMan.com 989-832-1866

MISCELLANEOUS
AMISH BUILT storage sheds and mini cabins delivered to your site anywhere in Michigan! Starting at $2,500.00 mynextbarn.com 989-832-1866

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-922-0420 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – 50% off installation + Additional 10% off

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY

$1000 OFF*
AND
No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months**
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CALL NOW!
(877) 368-0690
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Military & Senior Discounts Available

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/2024. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2024 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

Miscellaneous Services

install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-888-718-1856

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-844-369-2501

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-691-4117 today!

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 888-815-6233

Want a greener lawn? TruGreens your go-to for a tailored lawn care plan. Act now and get 50% off your first service with a purchase of an annual plan. Call us at 1-855-608-1458 to learn more

Acculevel. Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts. Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home. Act now! Up to $600 off. Restrictions apply. Call for a free consultation. 1-844-700-4986

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-844-488-2950

Painting & Decorating

Need help finding the right candidate for your open position?? Call the classifieds to place a HELP WANTED AD! 269-591-6105

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WHY CALL THE REST WHEN YOU CAN CALL THE BEST?
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(269) 340-2440
(269) 357-9594

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SPECIALIZING IN STORM DAMAGE CLEANUP AND REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS TREES IN DIFFICULT LOCATIONS.
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53 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
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FREE ESTIMATES!!!
•TOTAL REMOVAL, TRIMMING & LOT CLEARING.
•STUMP GRINDING
• STORM DAMAGE
•SEASONED FIREWOOD
SAME DAY SERVICE, EXCELLENT CLEAN-UP
*60 & 80 FT. BUCKET TRUCK
FULLY INSURED.
PLEASE CALL 574-848-5845.

Public Notices

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Auction
63626 M 62
Cassopolis, MI
on 9/27/24 @ 8 A.M.
Wallace 24 HR Towing, LLC will have the following vehicles up for auction:
2005 Ford F-450 Superduty
2014 Kenworth T680

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
AV/05 FORD

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID DISTRICT SNOW PLOWING

The Dowagiac Union School District shall accept sealed bids for **snow plowing.** Bids shall be accepted until 1:00 pm Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at Dowagiac Union Schools Administrative Offices 243 South Front Street Dowagiac MI 49047. All bids should be clearly marked **"District Snow Plowing"**. At 1:00 p.m. all bids will be publicly opened. A pre-bid meeting will be held on Monday, September 30, 2024, at 9 am at the Warehouse Building 29100 Pokagon Street Dowagiac MI 49047. Bid documents may be picked up by contacting John Juroff, Facilities Director, Dowagiac Union Schools, 29100 Pokagon Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047. Phone: 269-782-4480, jjuroff@dowagiacschools.org. All questions will be submitted via e-mail and answered via e-mail.

Dowagiac Union Schools is an E.O.E.

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, 2024
BIDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF DOWAGIAC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 5, 2024 General Election has been scheduled for 2:00 p.m., October 10, 2024 In the Dowagiac City Hall located at 241 S. Front Street, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
The Public Accuracy Test in conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer that will be used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Patty Patano, City Clerk

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
GENERAL ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 5, 2024 DOWAGIAC, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF DOWAGIAC:
You are hereby notified to register to vote or to change your address for the August 6, 2024, Election.
To register, visit any Secretary of State Office, the Cass County Clerk's Office or your City Clerk's Office at City Hall. Electors who wish to register with the City Clerk may do so: Wednesdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm and Thursdays 1:00 to 3:00 pm
The Ballot features:
Presidential/Vice Presidential candidates
Congressional candidates: US Senator, Representative 5 th District
Legislative: Representative 37 th District
County: Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk & Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner, Surveyor, County Commissioner 2nd District
State Boards: Board of Education, Regent of the University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan
State University, Governor of Wayne State University
Community College: Board of Trustees Member
Local School District: Board member
You may register to vote at the following location: Dowagiac City Hall, 241 South Front Street; Dowagiac, MI 49047
By: Patty Patano, City Clerk, (269) 783-2502

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF DOWAGIAC NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR RENTAL REHAB FIT STOP PROJECT MSC-221032-RR/201 S. FRONT STREET

The City of Dowagiac will conduct a closeout public hearing on **October 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM at Dowagiac City Hall, 241 S. Front Street, in the second floor Council Chambers,** for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to submit comments and receive a final report on the completion of the FitStop Apartments' Rental Rehab CDBG grant.
The CDBG grant provided funding to assist in the development of four new residential units at 201 Front Street that involved rehabbing a building that is over 150 years old. Egress for the apartments was improved in the process, along with replacement windows according to historic guidelines, plumbing upgrades, mechanical upgrades and electrical upgrades. Demolition was done to remove the old existing interior walls and floors; and all new walls, ceilings, flooring, heating and cooling, water heaters, bathroom fixtures, kitchen cabinets and energy-star appliances, including washers and dryers, were installed. Three of four units are affordable units per HUD and MEDC requirements for 51% to be rented to low to moderate income households. One of the units is market rate, and has no restrictions for income.
The total project cost was $755,274.80
MEDC grant funding: $400,000
Owner construction match: $301,758
Owner architectural match: $18,755
Lead/Asbestos Abatement: $8,661.80
Administration: $26,100
All the CDBG activities benefitted low- to moderate- income persons; zero persons were displaced as a result of the project.
Interested parties are invited to comment on the project in person at the public hearing or in writing through **4:00pm on October 14, 2024**, and addressed to **Amanda Sleigh, Assistant City Manager at 269-782-0437.**
Citizen views and comments on the completed project are welcome.
City of Dowagiac
Amanda Sleigh, Assistant City Manager
269-782-0437

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
RENTAL REHAB

PUBLIC NOTICE

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Supervisor Braman, with a moment of silence observed for the remembrance of 9/11 survivors, victims, and first responders.
Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Feirick
Roll Call Attendance: Present – Supervisor Braman, Trustee Feirick, Trustee Glynn; Absent – Treasurer Behnke
Approval of Agenda carried by roll call vote
Public Hearing on Special Assessment Districts began at 6:33pm and closed at 6:34pm with no comments on the following tax rolls:
Dewey Lake Weed Control Special Assessment District
Little Crooked Lake Weed Control Special Assessment District
Magician Lake Weed Control Special Assessment District
Regular Public Comment was open at 6:34pm – comments heard.
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Carried with a roll call vote
Consent Agenda included approval of minutes from August 14th, 2024 regular meeting; and the approval of bills & claims totaling $67, 968.63
Public Safety Updates & Reports were heard and received
Clerk Honn reported that the attorney had given feedback on the Short-Term Rental Ordinance draft. The board discussed when to hold a public hearing on the ordinance. The board agreed to hold it at a Planning Commission meeting and invites the public to give feedback. Clerk Honn will begin the noticing process.
Resolution 24-14: Special Assessment Roll for Dewey Lake Weed Control: CARRIED
Resolution 24-15: Special Assessment Roll for Little Crooked Lake Weed Control: CARRIED
Resolution 24-16: Special Assessment Roll for Magician Lake Weed Control: CARRIED
Motion to approve Budget Line-Item transfer: Decrease 101-216-702 (Election Wages) by $8,000; Increase 101-216-729 (Election Supplies) by $8,000: CARRIED
Motion to approve the Election Equipment purchase of $6,593 for an ICP2 Voting machine: CARRIED
Motion to approve Clerk to attend MTA Regional Meeting and Fall Conference: CARRIED
Resolution 24-17: Zoning & Building Permit Fee Schedule: CARRIED
Resolution 24-18: To add Jessica Honn to Depository Accounts: CARRIED
Motion to approve Nick Fryman Construction's bid for roof repair to the Township Hall: CARRIED
Motion to approve the Bros Chimney bid for the chimney repair: CARRIED
Public Comment was open at 7:10pm – comments were heard
Meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
SUMMARY 09.11.24

PUBLIC NOTICE

SILVER CREEK TOWNSHIP SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2024

Meeting was Called to Order at 11:01am
Pledge of Allegiance was led by Treasurer Behnke
Roll Call Attendance (all present)- Supervisor Braman, Trustee Feirick, Trustee Glynn, Treasurer Behnke, Clerk Honn
Approval of Agenda passed with voice call vote
Public Comment was open at 11:04 and closed with no comments presented.
Discussions: The Special Meeting was called for the purpose of amending the special assessments tax roll by 25% specific to the Dewey Lake Weed District and Magician Lake Weed District. The updated Tax Roll was available and presented. It is available to view in the Clerk's Office during regular office hours or by request.
Resolution 24-14 Dewey Lake Weed Special Assessment District as amended CARRIED
Resolution 24-16 Magician Lake Weed Special Assessment District as amended CARRIED
Meeting adjourned at 11:09am with unanimous support.

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
SUMMARY 09.17.24

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF DOWAGIAC NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT MSC-222010-WRI/E. DIVISION STREET

The City of Dowagiac will conduct a closeout public hearing on **October 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM** at **Dowagiac City Hall, 241 S. Front Street,** in the second floor Council Chambers, for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to submit comments and receive a final report on the completion of the **Water Infrastructure Project/East Division Street** CDBG grant.
The CDBG grant provided funding to assist in **replacement of approximately 2,200 feet of cast iron water main, including connections to the existing side streets and start and end points. The main was replaced with 12 inch diameter High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and was connected to 12 inch diameter water main on either end. The new main will increase the system reliability and fire flows in the district and included the installation of five new fire hydrant assemblies. The water main was directionally drilled within the tree lawn areas under the sidewalk to minimize tree, driveway and sidewalk removals. This location shifted the water main out from under the pavement on Division Street (M-62) which is controlled by MDOT. The project also included replacement of 45 lead service lines along the route up to each dwelling. Sidewalk ramps were replaced with ADA compliant ramps, which had been recently upgraded as part of an MDOT resurfacing project in 2019. Additional sections of compromised sidewalks were replaced, and those additional costs were funded by the City. Roadway removals required to connect water to the water main were replaced with 8 inches of aggregate base and matched the payment sections for Division Street and the side streets respectively.**
The total project cost was $1,166,517
MEDC grant funding: $737,615
City of Dowagiac Construction match: $240,202
City of Dowagiac Engineering match: $162,700
Administration: $26,000.
All the CDBG activities benefitted low- to moderate- income persons; zero persons were displaced as a result of the project.
Interested parties are invited to comment on the project in person at the public hearing or in writing through **4:00pm on October 14, 2024**, and addressed to **Amanda Sleigh, Assistant City Manager, at 269-782-0437**.
Citizen views and comments on the completed project are welcome.

City of Dowagiac
Amanda Sleigh, Assistant City Manager 269-782-0437

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
WATER PROJECT

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 9, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Chris L. Green, to Landmark Mortgage Group, Inc., Mortgagee, dated April 18, 2001 and recorded April 25, 2001 in Liber 766, Page 166 and Loan Modification Agreement recorded on February 22, 2022, in Liber 1212, Page 1493, Cass County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by CITI-MORTGAGE, INC., by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One and 33/100 Dollars ($67,431.33).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby

Legal Notices

given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Cass County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 9, 2024.
Said premises are located in the City of Dowagiac, Cass County Michigan, and are described as: Lot number nine (9) in Patrick Hamilton's Addition to the City of Dowagiac, Cass County, Michigan.
205 N. Front Street, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: September 7, 2024
File No. 24-009940
Firm Name: Orlans PC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(09-07)(09-28)

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2024
1539272 GREEN

Looking for a home?

Look in our classifieds section and learn of great deals for you and your family.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.
Default has occurred in the conditions of a mortgage made by Mark Hall (the "Mortgagor") in favor of Big Brother Bail Bonds Agency, LLC, a limited liability company with an address of 800 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 212, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (the "Mortgagee") dated December 5, 2023, and recorded on January 05, 2024, in Liber 1241 Page 603 in the Cass County Records (the "Mortgage"). The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid as of date of this Notice is Six Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty dollars and 00/100 cents. ($6,250.00). This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note as permitted by Michigan Law after the date of this notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of default. The Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of thereof, at public auction, to the highest bidder for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of the sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on, or prior to, the date of said sale. Notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises or some part of them at a public venue at the place of holding, Cass County Courthouse Lobby at 60296 M-62 #6, Cassopolis, MI 49031at 10:00 AM on October 9th, 2024. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage is in the Township of Wayne, County of Cass, State of Michigan, more specifically described as: 879-84 LOTS 1 TO 16 INCLUDING BLK 9 TWIN SHORES COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 25530 63RD PLACE, DOWAGIAC, MI TAX ID# 14-150-209-001-00 together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements, and fixtures: all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the property; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land divisions or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the Foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or rescind the sale at any time. In the event of cancellation or rescission, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the holder for any damages to the property during the redemption period. The length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of the sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be thirty (30) days DATED: August 27, 2024 JAMES STERKEN STERKEN LAW ATTORNEYS FOR BIG BROTHER BAIL BONDS 5175 PLAINFIELD AVE NE GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49525 (616) 540-7928
(09-07)(09-28)

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2024
1539333 HALL

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 16, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tyrone J. Muscat, Unmarried Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee: PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Date of Mortgage: April 6, 2020 Date of Mortgage Recording: April 21, 2020 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: $150,794.44 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Penn, Cass County, Michigan, and are described as: Lots Numbered 18 and 19, Supervisors Plat of Filley's Resort, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1- E of Plats, page 211, Records of Cass county, Michigan, excepting therefrom, Commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot Numbered 19, Filley's Resort; thence South 29.1 feet; thence West 5 feet; thence North 29.8 feet; thence East 5.05 feet to the place of beginning. Also excepting therefrom, Beginning at the Southwest corner of Lot Number 20, Supervisor's Plat of Filley's Resort, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1-E of Plats, page 211, Cass County Records; thence North 89 degrees35'00" West, along the South line of Lot 19 in said plat, 10.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees56'38" West, parallel with the East line of said Lot 19, 149.86 feet; thence North 89 degrees 45'50" West, 5.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees56'38" West, 30.53 feet to the North line of said Lot 19; thence South 84 degrees19'16" East along said North line, 10.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees56'38" East, parallel with the East line of said Lot 19, 29.58 feet; thence South 89 degrees45'50" East, 5.00 feet, to the East line of said Lot 19; thence South 00 degrees56'38" East, along the East line of said Lot 19, 149.90 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly Known as: 16640 Donnell Lake St., Vandalia, MI 49095 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 09/14/2024 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 319455
(09-14)(10-05)

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 14, 21, 28, and Oct. 5 2024
1540222 MUSCAT

Selling your home?
Advertise here and sell it faster.
Call Classifieds at 269-591-6105.

LEGAL NOTICE

TO ALL PERSONS, including: whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Trace Anthony Brunton has filed a petition for name change. A name change hearing will be held on Monday October 14, 2024 at 10:00 am at 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, MI 49031*(Via Zoom) before Judge Carol M. Bearlor to change the name of : Trace Anthony Brunton to Tiana Marie Armani

Dowagic Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
2024-194-NC

PUBLIC NOTICE

If you or someone you know worked at Consolidated Die Cast in Dowagiac, MI during 1974, please call Betsy at Simmons Hanly Conroy toll-free at (855) 988-2537. You may also email Betsy at bwilliams@simmonsfirm.com.

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024
NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 23, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Nancy L. Diamond
Original Mortgagee: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PHH Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: November 18, 2004
Date of Mortgage Recording: November 24, 2004
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $166,992.74
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Silver Creek, Cass County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point on the East line of Section 36, Town 5 South, Range 16 West, 50 rods South of the Northeast corner of said Section thence West 13.33 rods; thence North 6 rods, thence East 13.33 rods; thence South 6 rods to beginning.
Common street address (if any): 55132 M 51 N, Dowagiac, MI 49047-9664
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: September 21, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1540428
(09-21)(10-12)

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5 and 12, 2024
1540428 DIAMOND

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CASS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 2024-2009-DE

Estate of DEBRA KAYE CRUMP, deceased Date of birth: 07/17/1956

TO ALL CREDITORS:*
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, DEBRA KAYE CRUMP, died2/5/2020. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to DAWN N. CORNELL, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 60296 M-62, CASSOPOLIS, MICHIGAN 49031 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
9/20/2024

DAWN N. CORNELL 2513 ROCKNE DR. SOUTH BEND, IN 46612
574-350-3740

SEAN W. DREW, P33851, 302 SYCAMORE STREET, NILES, MICHIGAN
269-683-5121

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
EST/CRUMP, D.

LEGAL NOTICE

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 23, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Katherine L. Turpin and Timothy C. Hyser, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ruoff Mortgage Company, Inc., its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated February 21, 2023 and recorded February 27, 2023 in Liber 1229, Page 1058 Cass County Records, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Ruoff Mortgage Company, Inc. by Assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Ten and 3/100 Dollars ($230,210.03).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Cass County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 23, 2024.
Said premises are located in the Township of Pokagon, Cass County Michigan, and are described as:
Beginning at a point on the centerline of Michigan State Trunkline Highway M-40 which is 1052.00 feet Northeasterly from the intersection of the centerline of said highway with the East and West Quarter line of Section 15, Town 6 South, Range 16 West; thence Northeasterly along the centerline of said highway, 200.00 feet; thence Southeasterly at right angles to the centerline of said highway, 407.20 feet; thence Southwesterly parallel with the centerline of said highway, 200.00 feet; thence Northwesterly to the point of beginning.
58329 M 51 S, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: September 21, 2024
File No. 24-006514
Firm Name: Orlans PC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(09-21)(10-12)

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5 and 12 2024
1540468 TURPIN

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CASS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
FILE NO. 2024-206-DE

Estate of LINDA SUE KAMINSKI, deceased Date of birth: 12/12/58

TO ALL CREDITORS:*
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, LINDA SUE KAMINSKI, died 4/5/2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MICHAEL THOMAS KAMINSKI, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 60296 M-62, CASSOPOLIS, MICHIGAN 49031 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
9/23/2024

Nathan A. Barnes P-80513
4100 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 100 Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-243-4100

Michael Thomas Kaminski
60150 M-51 S. Dowagiac , MI 49047 269-462-5912

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
EST/KAMINSKI

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:

The decedent, June Arlene Schommer (date of birth: June 5, 1939), grantor of the June A. Schommer Revocable Living Trust dated July 8, 2015, as amended, died on August 25, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate and trust will be forever banned unless presented to Christianna Schommer, Trustee, at 31940 Sunrise Avenue, Dowagiac, MI 49047, within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

09/20/24

Christianna Schommer, Trustee 31940 Sunrise Avenue Dowagiac, MI 49047 (269) 462-0018

Legacy Counsel PLC Gwendolyn Powell Braswell (P79797), 1101 Broad Street Suite 315, St. Joseph, MI 49085, (269)932-4017

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 28, 2024
EST/SCHOMMER, J.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 23, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Scott Darasko, single man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC
Date of Mortgage: March 26, 2021
Date of Mortgage Recording: March 30, 2021
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $120,231.01
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Jefferson, Cass County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at a point North 69 degrees East 603.43 feet from a point on the Section line of Section 5, Town 7 South, Range 15 West, and South 0 degrees 30 minutes East 102.2 feet from the 1/8 corner of the Southwest corner of the Southwest 1/4, thence North 69 degrees East 260 feet, thence North 21 degrees West 194.4 feet, thence South 69 degrees West 260 feet, thence South 21 degrees East 194.4 feet to the place of beginning. Also, the Right of Ingress and Egress over the following described property: Commencing at a point of the West line of said Section 5, a distance of 70.11 feet North from the East corner North of the Southwest corner of said Section 5; thence North 69 degrees 00 minutes East along the centerline of a 66.00 foot Right of way 371.51 feet; thence South 21 degrees 00 East on the centerline of a 33.00 foot driveway 86.4 feet; thence North 69 degrees 00 minutes East on the centerline of a 25.00 foot driveway 971.50 feet to the point of ending.
Common street address (if any): 63695 White St, Cassopolis, MI 49031-9656
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: September 21, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1540694
(09-21)(10-12)

Dowagiac Daily News:
Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5 and 12 2024
1540694 DARASKO

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at that place where Circuit Court is held in Cass County, Michigan, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain Commercial Mortgage ("Mortgage") to secure an indebtedness in the original amount of $462,004.00, from Theresa Seitz, an individual, Mortgagor, to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2021-3, Mortgagee, dated July 30, 2021, recorded on August 3, 2021, at Liber 1220, Page 2260, as assigned to Mortgagee by assignment recorded at Liber 1227, Page 1598, of the Records of the Cass County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the unpaid principal sum of $489,820.00, plus regular interest accrued and which will continue to accrue after April 1, 2024 at the rate of 6.49% per annum, plus default interest and loan fees accrued and that continue to accrue thereafter, plus late charges, corporate advances, and escrow advances that continue to accrue thereafter, plus any applicable contractual prepayment penalty, plus legal fees and costs. No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by said Mortgage or any part thereof. Said premises are commonly known as 23861 North Shore Drive, Edwardsburg, MI 49112, situated in Cass County, Michigan, and are described as follows: Real Estate Located in the Township of Ontwa, County of Cass, State of Michigan and described as: Parcel I: Lot Numbered 22 in Oak Beach, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, page 52, Cass County Records. Parcel II: Lot Numbered 4, Hill Top Lawn, Ontwa Township, Cass County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1, page 194, Cass County Records. Notice is further given that the length of the redemption shall be six months from the date of sale. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. If the mortgaged premises is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL Chapter 600, under section 3278, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the mortgaged premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale for damaging the mortgaged premises during the redemption period. This Instrument Prepared By: Zachary D. Prendergast, Esq. Robbins Kelly Patterson & Tucker 312 Elm Street, Suite 2200 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Phone: (513) 721-3330 Fax: (513) 721-5001 E-Mail: zprendergast@rkpt.com
(09-28)(10-19)

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 12 and 19, 2024
1541112 SEITZ

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at that place where Circuit Court is held in Cass County, Michigan, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage (the "Mortgage") to secure an indebtedness in the original amount of $462,004.00, from Theresa Seitz, an individual, Mortgagor, to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Velocity Commercial Capital Loan Trust 2021-3, Mortgagee, dated July 30, 2021, recorded on August 3, 2021, at Liber 1220, Page 2260, as assigned to Mortgagee by assignment recorded at Liber 1227, Page 1598, of the Records of the Cass County Register of Deeds, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the unpaid principal sum of $489,820.00, plus regular interest accrued and which will continue to accrue after April 1, 2024 at the rate of 6.49% per annum, plus default interest and loan fees accrued and that continue to accrue thereafter, plus late charges, corporate advances, and escrow advances that continue to accrue thereafter, plus any applicable contractual prepayment penalty, plus legal fees and costs. No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by said Mortgage or any part thereof. Said premises are commonly known as 23861 North Shore Drive, Edwardsburg, MI 49112, situated in Cass County, Michigan, and are described as follows: Real Estate Located in the Township of Ontwa, County of Cass, State of Michigan and described as: Parcel I: Lot Numbered 22 in Oak Beach, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, page 52, Cass County Records. Parcel II: Lot Numbered 4, Hill Top Lawn, Ontwa Township, Cass County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1, page 194, Cass County Records. Notice is further given that the length of the redemption shall be six months from the date of sale. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. If the mortgaged premises is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL Chapter 600, under section 3278, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the mortgaged premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale for damaging the mortgaged premises during the redemption period. This Instrument Prepared By: Zachary D. Prendergast, Esq. Robbins Kelly Patterson & Tucker 312 Elm Street, Suite 2200 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Phone: (513) 721-3330 Fax: (513) 721-5001 E-Mail: zprendergast@rkpt.com
(09-28)(10-19)

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 12 and 19, 2024
1541056 GRENERT

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Cass County, Michigan, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 23, 2024. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Nathan A. Grenert, a married man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: September 29, 2017
Date of Mortgage Recording: October 9, 2017
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $109,927.09
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Howard, Cass County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Southwest quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 30, Town 7 South, Range 16 West, described as: beginning at a point on the North and South Quarter line of Section 30, South 0 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds East, 2419.24 feet from the North Quarter corner thereof; thence north 89 degrees 48 minutes 30 seconds East, 390.00 feet; thence South 0 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds East, 225.00 feet to the East and West quarter line; thence South 89 degrees 48 minutes 30 seconds West along said Quarter line. 390.00 feet to the center of said Section 30; thence North 0 degrees 21 minutes 00 seconds West along the North and South Quarter line, 225.00 feet to the point of beginning.
Common street address (if any): 1101 Carberry Rd, Niles, MI 49120-3900
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: September 28, 2024
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515

1541056
(09-28)(10-19)

Dowagiac Daily News: Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 12 and 19, 2024
1541056 GRENERT

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT

DEALS ON WHEELS

ZERO DOWN DELIVERS!

ON THE SPOT APPROVAL

2000 FORD RANGER STEPSIDE 4 X 4
XLT, V-6, newer engine and transmission VERY RARE
Only $5,900

2009 NISSAN CUBE
Just in!!
Super low miles
Only $6,900

2008 BUICK LUCERNE CXS
Fresh trade in!! Hard to find V-8 with every option and low miles too!!
Only $7,900

2013 FORD FIESTA TITANIUM
Just in!!
Every option, super low miles
Only $9,900

2019 KIA SOUL
Just in! Low miles!
Only $11,900

2014 INFINITY QX60 AWD
Luxury for less
Only $14,900

2007 JEEP WRANGLER
It's candy!!
Only $14,900

2014 HONDA ACCORD LXI
Just in!!
Every option with super low miles
Only $14,900

2014 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE
Just in!! Super low miles, drop the top
Only $14,900

2018 TOYOTA RAV 4 4 X4
Just in!!
These sell fast…
Only $19,900

2019 CADILLAC XT5
Just in!!
Fully serviced, perfect condition
Only $19,900

2019 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW HIGH COUNTRY 4 X 4
Jacked up Duramax with every toy!
Must See!!

2018 FORD EXPLORER SPORT 4 X 4
Just in!!
Perfect with low miles
Only $21,900

2017 TOYOTA PRIUS PRIME
Only 35,000 miles with every option
50 MPG's!!!
Only $24,900

2022 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE CROSS AWD
Just in!! Only 23,000 miles with every option
Only $26,900

2003 CHEVY SSR
BIG BLOCK,
SUPER RARE
Only 43,000 miles
Only $29,900

2020 CHEVY TAHOE 4 X 4
Just in!!
Save thousands
Only $29,900

2020 HONDA PILOT EX-L 4 X 4
Every option, fully serviced
Ready to go
Only $29,900

2021 CHEVY COLORADO 4 X 4
Just in!!
Off lease, one owner
Only $29,900

2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB 4 X 4
Just in!!
Ecoboost with only 46,000 miles
Only $33,900

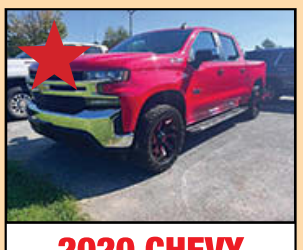
2020 CHEVY EXPRESS EXTENDED CARGO
Just in!!
Very rare. 6.0 litre V-8.
Only 47,000 miles
Only $34,900

2019 CHEVY BOX TRUCK
20ft, auto, a/c, super low miles
Only $37,900

2019 RAM 1500 CREW LIMITED 4 X 4
Every option, over $67,000 new.
Save huge!
Only $37,900

2020 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA
Just in!!
1 owner with only 46,000 miles
Only $39,900

2024 CHEVY SILVERADO 4 X 4
Just in!! Only 3,000 miles….Hard to find
Only $39,900



2020 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW Z-71
Oh So Purdy!
Only $41,900

2020 CHEVY SILVERADO LT CREW 4 X 4
Diesel,
Super low miles
Save thousands!
Only $45,900

2020 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED MAXI 4 X 4
Every option, super condition.
Get ready for winter now
Only $49,900

2022 FORD F-350 DUALLY 4 X 4
Just in!!
Like new in perfect condition
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Just in!! Original MSRP $118,000
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Only $84,900

SEE A STAR IT'S A 1 OWNER CAR

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